

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SOE-02
AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-15 SAS-02 CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 NRC-05 SSO-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 12180

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD, AS, UR
SUBJECT: CCD: AUSTRALIAN AND SOVIET COMMENTS ON NEW
MEMBERS OF CD

1. AUSTRALIAN MISSOFF MARY WICKS TOLD CCD ALTERNATE REP FLOWERREE THAT SOVIET DELOFF NAZARKIN HAD GIVEN HER THEIR PREFERRED LIST OF NEW CD MEMBERS (AUSTRALIA, FINLAND, ALGERIA, CUBA, AND SRI LANKA). IN PASSING ON THIS INFORMATION, SOVIET DELOFF NAZARKIN MADE A POINT OF STRESSING SOVIET VIEW THAT, ALTHOUGH CUBA IS NON-ALIGNED, USSR IS WILLING TO EQUATE CUBA TO WESTERN ALLY AUSTRALIA AS WAY OF MAINTAINING PROPER POLITICAL BALANCE. OTHER EASTERN DELS HAVE CONVEYED SAME MESSAGE TO AUSTRALIANS WHILE STRESSING THEIR SUPPORT FOR AUSTRALIA'S CANDIDACY.

2. WICKS WAS CONCERNED THAT US COOLNESS TOWARD CUBA WOULD PUT AUSTRALIA'S CANDIDACY IN JEOPARDY, ESPECIALLY IF NEW MEMBERS WERE LIMITED TO FIVE, AND INQUIRED ABOUT LATEST US THINKING ON SELECTION OF NEW CD MEMBERS. FLOWERREE SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL TO SPECULATE ON OUTCOME AT THIS
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TIME WHEN CONSULTATION PROCESS WAS STILL IN VERY PRELIMINARY STAGE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, HE SAID THAT US PREFERRED VENEZUELA OVER CUBA(PER STATE 191007)AND SAID THAT OUR INFORMATION ON SOVIET VIEWS CORRESPONDED TO WHAT HAD BEEN GIVEN AUSTRALIANS.

3. WICKS WENT ON TO SAY THAT FRENCH IN PARIS HAD MADE

FRIENDLY NOISES BUT HAD STOPPED SHORT OF ENDORSING AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACY. IN COMPARISON OF NOTES WITH BELGIAN REP, WICKS SAID THAT FRENCH HAD GIVEN THEM VIRTUALLY SAME RESPONSE.

4. CUBAN CANDIDACY FOR CD MEMBERSHIP WAS ALSO RAISED BY NAZARKIN IN A CONVERSATION WITH USDELOFF AKALOVSKY. NAZARKIN ASKED IF THE US WOULD REALLY OPPOSE INCLUSION OF CUBA IN CD. AKALOVSKY RESPONDED THAT, GIVEN THE STATE OF US-CUBAN RELATIONS, CUBAN CANDIDACY POSED PROBLEMS FOR THE US. HE ALSO NOTED THAT, WHILE CONSULTATIONS ON ADDITIONAL CD MEMBERS WERE STILL IN A PRELIMINARY STAGE, THERE WERE OTHER LA CANDIDATES WHOM THE US MIGHT PREFER. NAZARKIN REJOINED THAT CUBAN MEMBERSHIP WAS A MATTER OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE USSR; IF IT WERE RESOLVED POSITIVELY, THE SOVIETS WOULD BE QUITE FLEXIBLE AS REGARDS THE SELECTION OF OTHER ADDITIONAL MEMBERS. WHEN AKALOVSKY FACETIOUSLY COMMENTED THAT THE SOVIETS MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN INCLUDING CUBA IN CD SO AS TO EXPOSE IT TO PRESSURE FOR JOINING IN NPT, LTB, AND THE TREATY OF TLA TELLOCO, NAZARKIN SAID THE SOVIET POSITION WAS BASED ON A DESIRE TO ASSURE BOTH REGIONAL AND POLITICAL BALANCE AMONG THE ADDITIONAL CD MEMBERS. IN SOVIET VIEW, AUSTRALIAN AND CUBAN MEMBERSHIP WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH BALANCE: AUSTRALIA--A GEOGRAPHIC AREA IN ITSELF--WAS NOT A MEMBER OF NATO, BUT HAD TIES TO THE WEST, WHILE CUBA--A LATIN AMERICAN
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COUNTRY--WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE WARSAW PACT BUT HAD "CERTAIN TIES" WITH THAT GROUPING. AS TO THE OTHER SOVIET-PREFERRED CANDIDATES, ALGERIA WOULD REINFORCE REPRESENTATION FROM AFRICA, FINLAND FROM EUROPE, AND SRI LANKA FROM ASIA. NAZARKIN ALSO CONTENDED THAT "EVEN AFTER THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE" CUBAN CANDIDACY ENJOYED WIDE SUPPORT AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED, INCLUDING THOSE FROM LATIN AMERICA. ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS, NAZARKIN SAID THE SOVIETS RECOGNIZED THE DIFFICULTY OF KEEPING THE NUMBER OF SUCH MEMBERS LIMITED TO FIVE; THEY FELT, HOWEVER, THAT TACTICALLY IT WOULD BE BETTER TO START WITH FIVE, SINCE AGREEMENT ON A LIST OF FIVE WOULD FACILITATE THE SELECTION OF ANY ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES.

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